

(b) transfecting said progenitor cells with DNA encoding a selectable marker and an externally regulatable growth-promoting protein; and

C1
correct
(c) selecting an adherent monolayer of the transfected cells on a second surface and in a second serum-free growth medium that permits attachment and proliferation, wherein the second serum-free growth medium comprises FGF-2, EGF and PDGF, and therefrom producing a conditionally-immortalized human mesencephalon cells in which the growth-promoting protein is regulated by an external factor, such that suppression of the growth promoting protein results in differentiation of the cell into a neuron.

C2
6. (Amended twice) A conditionally-immortalized human mesencephalon neural progenitor cell capable of differentiation into neurons, wherein the cell is transfected with DNA encoding a growth-promoting protein that is regulated by an external factor, such that suppression of the growth-promoting protein results in differentiation of the cell into a neuron, and wherein the cell is polygonal and grows as an adherent monolayer.

C3
9. (Amended) A method for producing a neuron, comprising culturing a cell produced according to claim 1 in the presence of at least one differentiating agent under conditions that inhibit expression of the growth-promoting gene.

C4
25. (Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the differentiating agent comprises the combination of forskolin, GDNF and CNTF.

26. (Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the differentiating agent comprises the combination of forskolin, GDNF, CNTF, IGF-1 and BDNF.

Please add the following new claims:

C5
27. (New) The method of claim 9 wherein said differentiating agent comprises GDNF.
